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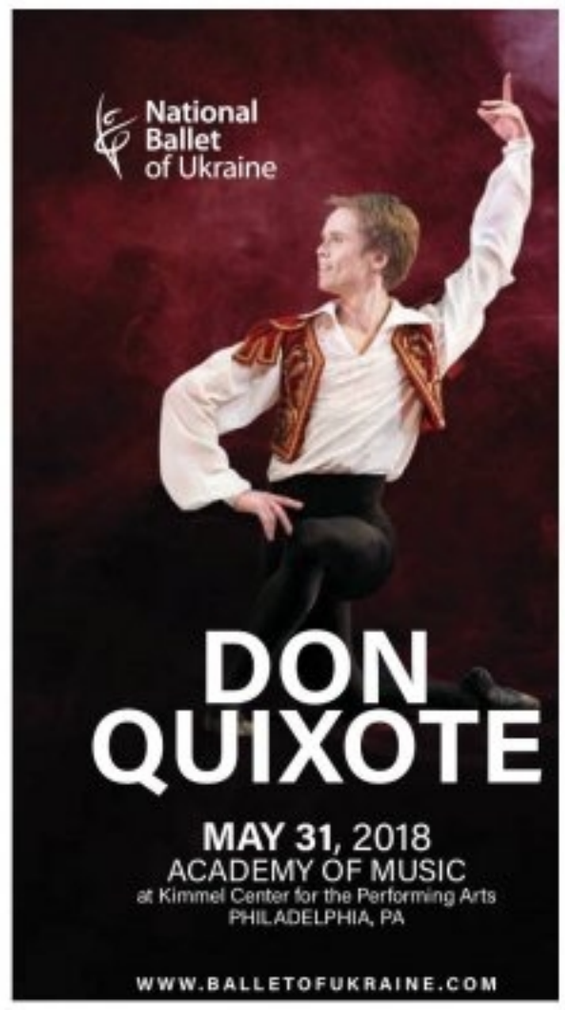
Wednesday, April 25, 2018 metro.us | t: MetroPhilly | f: MetroPi

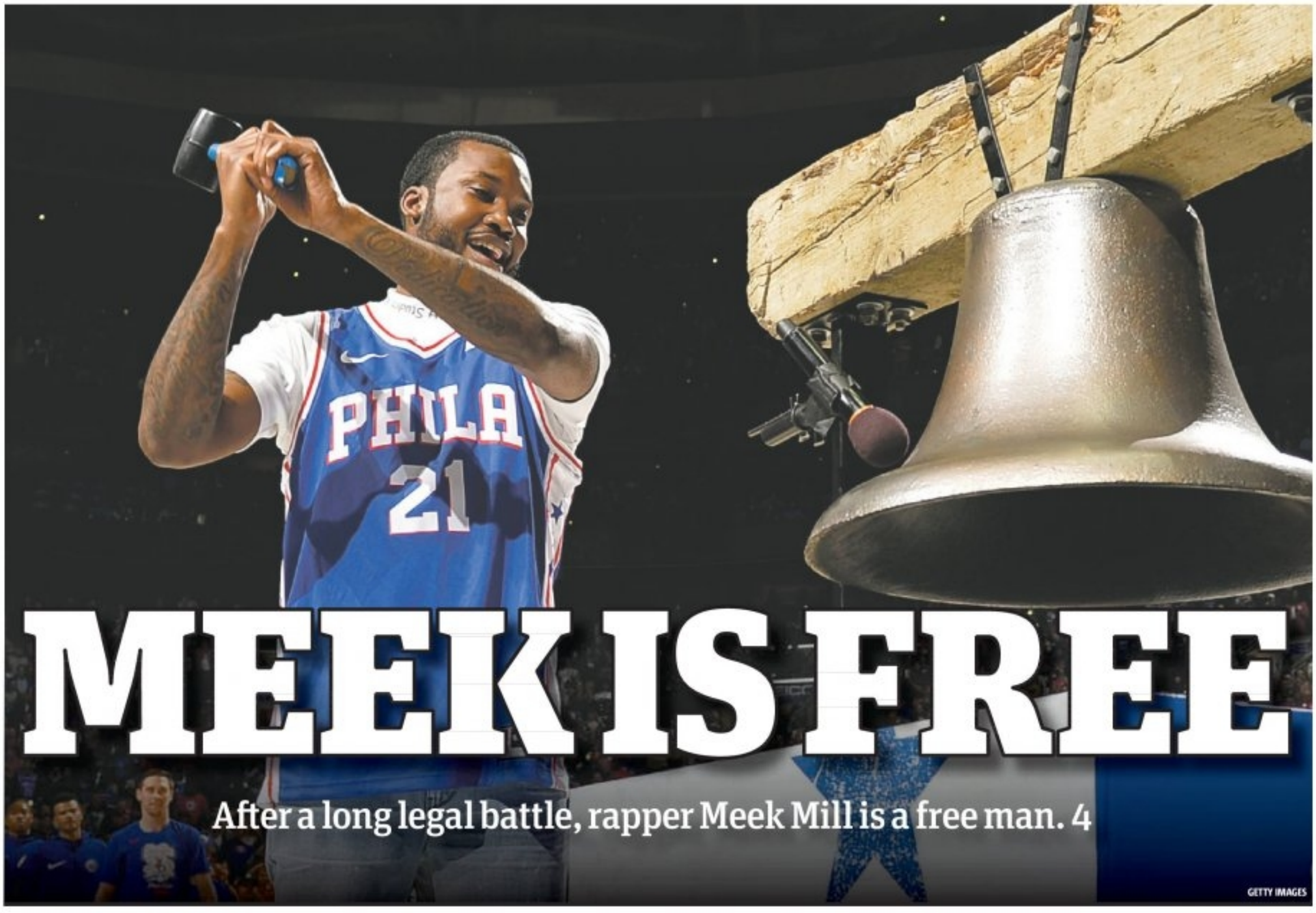
UNDER HIS EYE

'The Handmaid's Tale' is back. Here's everything you need to get ready for the premiere of the second season. Praised be. 15-17

Jazz hands, live music fans — the City Center Jazz Fest is finally here. 18-19

The Process Lives! Sixers advance to second round. 22





MEEK IS FREE

After a long legal battle, rapper Meek Mill is a free man. 4

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5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW

WELCOME TO METRO PHILLY

RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS

Today, the second season of "The Handmaid's Tale" premieres (with two episodes!), expanding the universe of Gilead while still making your heart sink to the pit of your stomach with freshly made horrors. Sound like a good time? Head over to page 15 where we chat with "Handmaid's" star Samira Wiley about the series' unmistakeable similarities to slavery and pages 16-17 for a frightening confirmation that we're not so far from a dystopian and totalitarian patriarchy after all. Under his eye, y'all.

1 OFFICIAL: WH DOCTOR JACKSON TO FIGHT FOR JOB

President Donald Trump's physician Ronny Jackson will not withdraw as the nominee to head the Veterans Affairs department and will fight allegations about his conduct that surfaced ahead of a Senate confirmation hearing, a White House official said on Tuesday. Jackson met with Trump on Tuesday after the president said he was leaving the decision up to the physician. The White House is now preparing a defense, feeling that Jackson — well liked by administration figures from both parties — was being railroaded. "We're pushing back," the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. President Donald Trump on Tuesday said his presidential physician must decide whether or not to move forward as his nominee to lead the Veterans Affairs department, saying he had not heard about reported allegations of past behavior issues. Speaking to reporters at a White House news conference, Trump said his pick, Ronny Jackson, was "one of the finest people that I have met" and "a great leader," but that he did not want to put him through an ugly nomination process in the U.S. Senate.

2 REWARD OFFERED IN SHOOTING OF DAD, CHILD

The Philly Fraternal Order of Police has offered a reward for information leading to the capture of the shooter who wounded a 21-year-old man and critically injured his infant son in Southwest Philly in what FOP president Jon McNesby described as an "ambush" attack. The victim, 21, and his son, 1, were shot on April 18 around 8:30 p.m. near 67th and Trinity streets. The shooter allegedly pumped some eight rounds into the victim's vehicle, hitting the man multiple times and the infant three times as they sat inside their 2016 Dodge Charger. The victim managed to drive away two blocks to the police department's 12th District, where he pulled up "at a high rate of speed," a police report said, and got out of the vehicle telling officers he and his son had been shot. Officers brought the baby to Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, while the father was treated at Penn Presbyterian. The $5,000 reward for information leading to the shooter's arrest was announced Tuesday as the investigation remains ongoing. In a statement, FOP Lodge #5 President Jon McNesby said, "This suspect shot recklessly into a vehicle knowing that a young child was inside."

SAM NEWHOUSE

3 TRUMPS HOST STATE DINNER FOR FRENCH PRESIDENT MACRON AND MRS. MACRON

President Donald Trump and first lady Melania Trump stand with French President Emmanuel Macron and French first lady Brigitte Macron after their arrival at the North Portico before a state dinner at the White House on April 24, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Trump is hosting Macron for a two-day official visit that included dinner at George Washington's Mount Vernon house, a tree planting on the White House South Lawn and a joint news conference.

GETTY IMAGES

4 SENATORS PUSH FOR INFO ON RUSSIAN OLIGARCHS

U.S. senators are pressing many of the world's largest financial institutions to disclose any links between their companies and wealthy Russians allied with Russian President Vladimir Putin, according to a letter released on Tuesday. Two Democratic senators, Jeanne Shaheen and Sheldon Whitehouse, have written to the banks, hoping to increase pressure not just on individuals on the U.S. Treasury's so-called "oligarchs list," but also on financial institutions to closely consider those with whom they do business as Washington moves to impose sanctions on Moscow. The Trump administration announced sanctions on Russia on April 6, largely responding to what U.S. intelligence agencies have said was Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election, although Treasury painted them as a response to a series of adversarial actions by Moscow. "Given their wealth and relationship to the Russian state, many oligarchs in Russia either wield or are susceptible to considerable political influence," the two senators said in the letter, seen by Reuters, which also said oligarchs have used their wealth to shield the state from sanctions.

5 EPA PROPOSES LIMITS TO SCIENCE USED IN POLICY

The Environmental Protection Agency proposed a rule on Tuesday that would limit the kinds of scientific research it can use in crafting regulations, an apparent concession to big business that has long requested such restrictions. Under the new proposals, the EPA will no longer be able to rely on scientific research that is underpinned by confidential medical and industry data. Scientists and former EPA officials worry it will hamstring the agency's ability to protect public health by putting key data off limits. "The science that we use is going to be transparent, it's going to be reproducible," Pruitt told a gathering at the EPA. "It's going to be able to be analyzed by those in the marketplace, and those that watch what we do can make informed decisions about whether we've drawn the proper conclusions or not," said Pruitt, who has been pursuing President Donald Trump's mission to ease the regulatory burden on business. The EPA has for decades relied on scientific research that is rooted in confidential medical and industry data as a basis for its air, water and chemicals rules.

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Meek Mill freed by new court order

The Philadelphia rapper was abruptly ordered released on unsecured bail by the state Supreme Court.

SAM NEWHOUSE
sam.newhouse@metro.us

Meek Mill is free.

Five months into a two- to four-year sentence imposed on probation violations, Philadelphia rapper Meek Mill, real name Robert Williams, was ordered released on unsecured bail by the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania.

In a statement, Meek thanked supporters, the Supreme Court and his lawyers for their work in support of his bids to be released.

"While the past five months have been a nightmare, the prayers, visits, calls, letters and rallies have helped me stay positive," Meek said in the statement. "To the Philadelphia District Attorney's office, I'm grateful for your commitment to justice — not only for my case, but for others that have been wrongfully jailed due to police misconduct. Although I'm blessed to have the resources to fight this unjust situation, I understand that many people of color across the country don't have that luxury and I plan to use my platform to shine a light on those issues. In the meantime, I plan to work closely with my legal team to overturn this unwarranted conviction and look forward to reuniting with my family and resuming my music career."

Comedian Kevin Hart had just visited Mill, who is incarcerated at the State Correctional Institution in Graterford, and decried the conditions, when the surprise announcement was released. Hart and 76ers owner Michael Rubin said on Instagram they were driving back from the prison, and turned around to pick him up.

Meek Mill arrives at the arena before the game between the Philadelphia 76ers and the Miami Heat. GETTY IMAGES

"... I'm on the way back to pick him up as we speak!"

Michael Rubin, 76ers owner

"@meekmill is FREE!!! Just left visiting Meek with @kevinhart4real and I'm on the way back to pick him up as we speak!" Rubin said in an Instagram post.

Meek Mill was ordered to remain incarcerated by Judge Genece Brinkley on April 16, but at that hearing, the judge granted a defense motion for a retrial on the charges his probation was based on. He was granted another hearing in June. But the Supreme Court's order supersedes to release Meek supersedes the authority of the lower court.

SIXERS GAME

Meek Mill's nightmare comes to an end as the Sixers' dream season continues

Before playing in Super Bowl LII, the Philadelphia Eagles trotted onto the field to the tune of Meek Mill's "Dreams and Nightmares."

The Sixers have been entering the court to the same song, with a bevy of team members outspoken supporters of Meek and his battle against injustice and potential racism.

And Tuesday night, prior to Game 5 between the Sixers and Miami Heat, Meek Mill was set free by a judge (likely pending a retrial and on bail), picked up by Sixers' co-owner Michael Rubin and helicoptered to the Wells Fargo Center prior to tip off. Meek walked right into the Sixers locker room.

Embiid visited Meek in prison in December. So did comedian and Sixers fanatic Kevin Hart, who was also at the Chester County prison Tuesday.

The Sixers gave Meek Mill the honor of ringing the liberty bell at center court before the game got underway to a rousing, bone-chilling standing ovation. He then took his seat next to Hart to take in the game. EVAN MACY

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Villanova VP one of two women killed in Radnor murder-suicide

One of two women shot dead Monday night was reportedly an assistant VP at Villanova and former state Senate candidate.

MORGAN ROUSSEAU
morgan@metro.us

Meredith Chapman was found dead on Monday. MEREDITH CHAPMAN/FACEBOOK

The bodies of two women were discovered Monday night after residents in Radnor Township reported gunshots and an unusual smell. Now, police are calling their deaths the result of an apparent murder-suicide.

Neighbors on the first blocks of Lowrys Lane, near Villanova University, called police at 7:05 p.m. Monday after hearing shots fired, Philly.com reported.

One of the women killed was reportedly Meredith Chapman, a former communications official at the University of Delaware who had a recent failed run at Pennsylvania Senate. Multiple sources allegedly told Delaware Online that Chapman was one of the victims, however, police had not officially released the identities of the women as of noon Tuesday. Chapman recently started a new job as assistant vice president at Villanova University.

The Lowrys Lane home that contained the bodies was reportedly Champan's residence. The News Journal reported that she had just moved into the house in the last week.

"This is not what usually happens on this street," neighbor Tom Dougherty told NBC Philly.

Since 2009, Chapman was the wife of Newark City Councilman Luke Chapman. In 2016, she ran against state Sen. Dave Sokola, D-Newark, but lost by five percentage points.

Sokola released a statement after the deaths, saying he was "stunned" by Chapman's death.

"… I'm deeply saddened to learn that such a promising young woman's life has been cut so short. She was sharp, hardworking and motivated by a sincere desire to serve her community."

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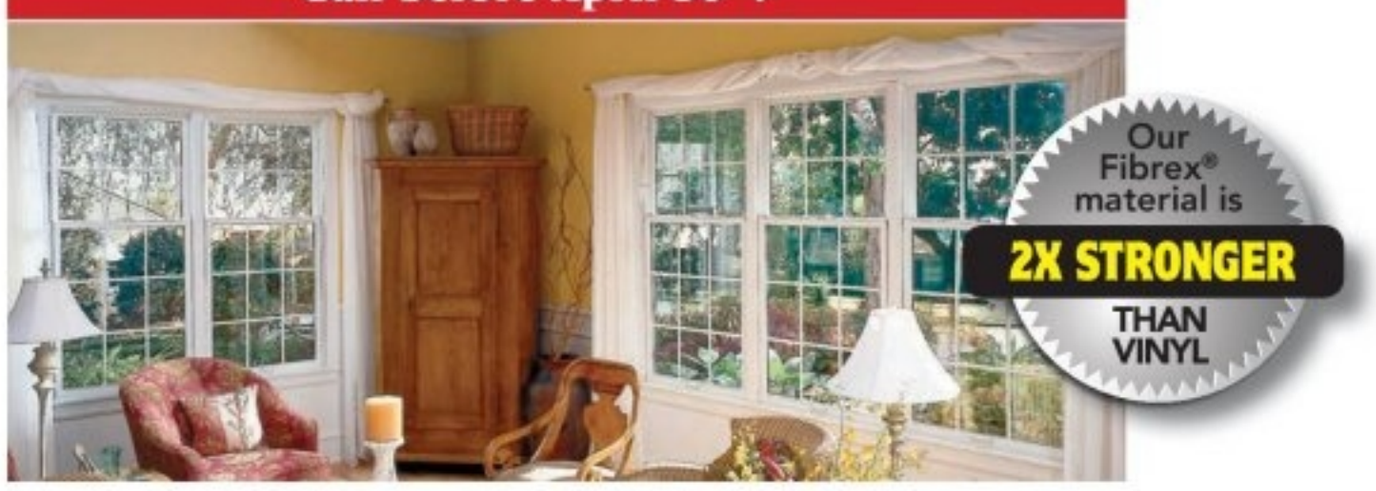

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Driver charged in house crash that killed sleeping 86-year-old woman

Driver who crashed into Montco home, killing elderly woman, was drunk, high and speeding, prosecutors say.

SAM NEWHOUSE
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A 21-year-old Telford man has been charged with homicide by vehicle DUI for allegedly plowing his 1995 Toyota into the side of a Harleysville Pike home, killing a sleeping 86-year-old woman, the Montco DA's office announced.

Joseph Bezanis, 21, of Telford Township, reportedly went off-road and drove at speeds averaging 83 mph over suburban lawns on the night of April 5 before crashing into the bedroom of Marianne Lambert, 86, killing her. Bezanis was later found to have a blood-alcohol content of .172 and tested positive for THC, prosecutors said.

"The defendant turned his vehicle into a lethal weapon that killed a grandmother as she was sleeping in her bed," Montco DA Kevin Steele said in a statement. "His actions have left a family without a matriarch and have forever affected their feelings of safety in their own home."

83 mph

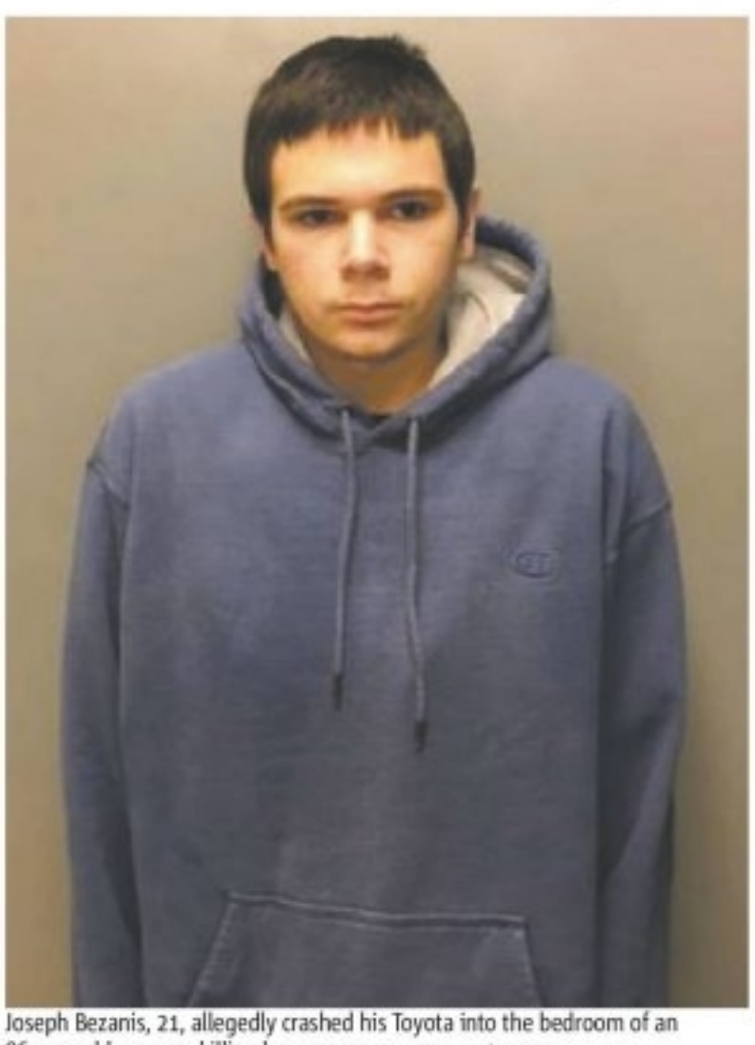
Joseph Bezanis allegedly went off-road at speeds averaging 83 mph.

Bezanis reportedly admitted to police he had been at Cheers & Beers Bar in Telford prior to the crash, where surveillance cameras caught him drinking at least three beers and a shot. The crash occurred just before midnight on April 5, when, while driving on Harleysville Pike, which has a speed limit of 40 mph, he allegedly hit the curb, then a mailbox, then hooked in through a driveway into the lawns along the pike, according to police.

According to a police report, there was no evidence of braking or that the driver attempted to stop at the crash scene or of any mechanical problems with the vehicle. They say Bezanis' vehicle traveled for 539 feet across four lawns and reached an average speed of 83 mph before it hit a section of raised lawn and went airborne for 21 feet before crashing into the wall of Lambert's bedroom.

According to the police report, the impact when the car struck the house around 12:02 a.m. ripped through the foundations and wall, throwing everything across the room, including the victim and her bed, and crushing her to death against the interior wall, according to prosecutors. She was pronounced dead at the scene. Five other occupants of the home were reportedly unharmed.

No defense attorney for Bezanis could be reached for comment. His preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 30.



Joseph Bezanis, 21, allegedly crashed his Toyota into the bedroom of an 86-year-old woman, killing her. COURTESY OF MONTCO DA'S OFFICE

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The new Philadelphia Board of Education members are eager to know what you think

Pre-K students at The Fitzpatrick School pay attention during a lesson. KAIT MOORE

You can learn a lot just by listening. That's what the nine newly appointed members of Philadelphia's new Board of Education are doing in one of their first acts as an official body since the candidates were selected to lead the governance of Philadelphia schools on behalf of the city. As they prepare to transition into governing schools after the School Reform Commission dissolves on June 30, the members will go on a tour of community listening sessions at several sites across the city.

"Listening is one of the most important skills you can have in terms of being a good leader," said Otis Hackney, Philadelphia's chief education officer. "This allows them to get a little bit of a slice of what the public expects of them."

The scheduled meetings include stops in West, North, South, Northwest and Northeast Philly. This is the first wave of listening sessions, as the new board prepares to take governance and setting of policy for the School District.

"I'm also a parent of a child in a School District school, so my expectations are just as high, if not higher than anyone else's out there," Hackney said. "I expect them to do a fantastic job, and I will work closely with them to help ensure that happens. … I want to make sure that they work successfully in strong partnership with the superintendent so they can continue the growth the district has made."

Basic school administration will still be run by Superintendent William Hite, who is pursuing his Action Plan 3.0, a plan that calls for, among other goals, early literacy education and increasing graduation rates.

The new Board of Education has been met with support so far, as many feel a return of Philly schools to local control, lost in 2001 when the district agreed to let the state School Reform Commission administer schools in exchange for state funds to cover shortfalls in the district's budget.

"The PFT [Philadelphia Federation of Teachers] looks forward to working with this board as we embrace the opportunities and overcome the challenges facing the education of our city's children," Philly teachers union President Jerry Jordan said when the new board members were appointed. "We're pleased to have a school board that represents a variety of perspectives. … I'm hopeful that this is the beginning of a new chapter for our schools — a chapter that puts an end to school closures, staff layoffs and privatization, and instead focuses on supporting Philly educators and investing the resources necessary to give our schoolchildren the programs and services they deserve." SAM NEWHOUSE

BOARD OF EDUCATION'S LISTENING TOUR

Students, parents, educators and residents are all invited to the Board of Education's community listening sessions. Registration via Eventbrite is encouraged but not required. Childcare, homework help and light refreshments will be provided at the meetings, at which presentations will be held with small group discussions to follow.

Wednesday, April 25, 6 p.m. at Dobbins CTE High School, 2150 West Lehigh Ave.

Saturday, May 5, 2:00 p.m. at South Philadelphia Library, 1700 S. Broad St.

Thursday, May 10, 6:00 p.m. at Blackwell Regional Library, 125 S. 52nd St.

Friday, May 18, 6:00 p.m. at Coleman Regional Library, 68 W. Chelten Ave.

Wednesday, May 23, 6:00 p.m. at Northeast Regional Library, 2228 Cottman Ave.

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Toronto police eye deadly van attack suspect's 'cryptic message' online

Canadian authorities have declined to say whether anger toward women had motivated the attack.

The man accused of plowing a rental van into pedestrians on a crowded Toronto sidewalk, killing 10 people in Canada's deadliest mass killing in decades, left a "cryptic message" on social media before his attack, police said on Tuesday.

Suspect Alek Minassian, 25, was charged with 10 counts of murder and 13 counts of attempted murder in the incident.

One possible clue to his motive emerged on Tuesday as Facebook confirmed Minassian wrote a post before the incident that referenced an "incel rebellion." The term is shorthand used in some online message boards for "involuntary celibacy," a loose social media movement of men who blame women for their celibacy.

The post also voiced admiration for a man who killed six college students before taking his own life in California in 2014 and who cited the "cruelness of women" for his virgin status.

"The accused is alleged to have posted a cryptic message on Facebook minutes before" the attack, Graham Gibson, a Toronto police detective sergeant, told a news conference. The majority of the victims were women, ranging in age from their mid-20s to early 80s, Gibson said.

He said the question of whether the attack was driven by anger against women was "going to be part of our investigation."

Facebook has since deleted Minassian's account, a representative said. "There is absolutely no place on our platform for people who commit such horrendous acts," she said in an email.

Minassian kept his shaved head down during a brief court appearance in Canada's largest city, speaking quietly with a defense lawyer and stat-

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Prime Minister Justin Trudeau called on Canadians to stand united with Toronto. ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

ing his name in a steady voice when asked to do so.

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau said there was no reason to suspect any national security connection.

Trudeau called on all Canadians to stand united with Toronto as flowers and scrawled messages in multiple languages piled up at a makeshift memorial in the city's north end, an ethnically diverse neighborhood of towering office buildings, shops, restaurants and homes.

"We cannot as Canadians choose to live in fear every single day as we go about our daily business," Trudeau told reporters outside of parliament in Ottawa.

The prime minister said the incident had not changed the country's threat level or security preparations for a G7 summit in Quebec in June.

Minassian had briefly served in Canada's armed forces in late 2017 but asked to be voluntarily released after 16 days of training, defense ministry spokeswoman Jessica Lamirande said.

The suspect's two-story red-brick home in a suburb north of Toronto was a crime scene Tuesday, taped off and surrounded by police vehicles.

Details about the dead emerged on Tuesday, with a South Korean foreign ministry representative saying that two of that country's citizens were killed and one injured in the attack. The representative spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to speak to the media. REUTERS

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President Trump has denied he ever stayed in Moscow overnight. GETTY IMAGES

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Trump denied pee-pee tapes with this alibi. Flight logs prove he's lying

A new report shows that Trump's plane stayed overnight in Moscow in 2013.

MICHAEL MARTIN
letters@metro.us

President Trump has denied he ever stayed in Moscow overnight, most notably to James Comey when he was director of the FBI. But flight records show he did, during the Miss Universe pageant in 2013.

The logistics are key to the Steele Dossier, the collection of intelligence indicating collusion between Trump and the Russian government, and what is usually called its "salacious allegation" — that Trump hired prostitutes to urinate on a bed at the Ritz-Carlton Moscow while he watched, and the Russians have him on tape, which is being used as blackmail. "Pee-pee tapes" is the shorthand used by late-night comics.

Trump has said that was impossible, because he flew to Moscow for the pageant but left without spending the night. But Bloomberg reported that, according to flight records, Trump flew to Moscow on a private jet owned by his business partner Phil Ruffin. The plane landed in Moscow on Friday, Nov. 8. It left the city at 3:58 a.m. on Sunday, Nov. 10.

The plane touched down at Newark International Airport at 4:11 a.m. Eastern time. "I just got back from Russia-learned lots & lots. Moscow is a very interesting and amazing place!" Trump tweeted the same day.

TRUMP'S EARLIER DENIALS OF THE PEE-PEE TAPES

In his memos, Comey described Trump's denials. The first came during their dinner at the White House in January 2017. "He said he arrived in the morning, did events, then showered and dressed for the pageant at the hotel," and then left for the event, Comey wrote. "Afterwards, he returned only to get his things because they departed for New York by plane that same night."

On the second occasion in February 2017, Trump "explained, as he did at our dinner, that he hadn't stayed overnight in Russia during the Miss Universe trip," Comey wrote.

If Trump wasn't truthful with Comey, that presents another potential complication for him: Lying to the FBI is a federal offense.

In his new book, "A Higher Loyalty," Comey wrote that Trump seemed fixated on reports of the pee-pee tapes and asked Comey to somehow prove they weren't true.

Cosby, the once-beloved comedian and TV dad, is on trial on three counts of aggravated indecent assault GETTY IMAGES

Cosby lawyers attack accusers' credibility, drawing prosecutor rebuke

Defense lawyers for comedian Bill Cosby on Tuesday attacked the credibility of women who testified against him at his sexual assault trial, drawing a stern rebuke from prosecutors who said such shaming of victims was the reason women do not report sex crimes.

Cosby, the once-beloved comedian and TV dad, is on trial on three counts of aggravated indecent assault of Andrea Constand, 45, at his home outside Philadelphia in January 2004.

Lawyers for each side made their closing arguments on Tuesday at Montgomery County Courthouse in Norristown.

Defense lawyer Thomas Mesereau picked apart what he called inconsistent statements by Constand, labeling her "a pathological liar" and reminding the jury she continued to call Cosby after the alleged assault. He declared Cosby "must be acquitted on all counts."

Co-counsel Kathleen Bliss then assailed the five other witnesses who said they, like Constand, had been drugged and violated by Cosby, saying it was unfair to Cosby that they were "digging up stuff from three decades ago."

She said Cosby's accusers were fabricating stories in search of money and fame that would come with leveling such allegations against Cosby, a comedian known for clean material and whose career was based on a wholesome image.

"What is this case about? Money, press conferences, TV shows, salacious coverage, ratings. Sex sells," Bliss said.

"What is this case about? Money, press conferences, TV shows, salacious coverage, ratings. Sex sells."
Co-counsel Kathleen Bliss

When the prosecution got its turn, Assistant District Attorney Kristen Feden turned her attention not just to Cosby but also to Bliss, calling the lawyer's attack on the accusers "shameful, utterly shameful."

"She [Bliss] is the exact reason women and men don't report these crimes. Victims of sexual assault are part of society, too. They have families; they are human beings," Feden said.

As in the first trial, Cosby declined to testify on his own behalf. He has denied wrongdoing, saying any sexual contact he had was consensual.

His wife of more than 50 years, Camille Cosby, arrived in court on Tuesday for the first time since the trial began on April 9. REUTERS

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Trump and France's Macron seek new measures on Iran as deadline looms

Midway through a three-day state visit by Macron, the two leaders were remarkably chummy, repeatedly shaking hands and extolling each other's friendship.

"It's not a mystery, we did not have the same starting positions ..."
Emmanuel Macron, French president

President Donald Trump and French President Emmanuel Macron pledged on Tuesday to seek stronger measures to contain Iran, as the U.S. leader considers whether to ditch an international accord meant to prevent Tehran from obtaining a nuclear weapon.

At a joint news conference after lengthy talks, Trump did not repeat threats to withdraw from the 2015 agreement with Iran which was negotiated by his predecessor, former President Barack Obama, but made clear he has little patience for staying in the deal.

The friendliness between Trump and Macron extended to their talks on Iran, Syria and trade but there was no indication of a breakthrough on Macron's bid to persuade Trump to keep the U.S. in the Iran nuclear deal, maintain troops in Syria and exempt European allies from steel tariffs.

"It's not a mystery, we did not have the same starting positions, stances, and neither you nor I have a habit of changing our stances or going with the wind," said Macron.

He said he and Trump had discussed "a new deal" that would address Iran's expansion in the Middle East and its ballistic missile program.

Trump must decide by May 12 whether to restore economic sanctions on Tehran, which would be a severe blow to the pact that Iran signed with China, France, Germany, Russia, Britain and the U.S.

Trump left the issue open on Tuesday, although a source familiar with the internal debate at the White House said one option was under discussion was giving Europe more time to toughen the Iran deal's terms.

Trump threatened Iran with repercussions should it restart its nuclear program if the accord is scrapped.

"If Iran threatens us in any way, they will pay a price like few countries have ever paid," he said.

REUTERS

It was unclear whether Macron made substantial progress in his efforts to prevent Trump from pulling out of the Iran nuclear deal. GETTY IMAGES

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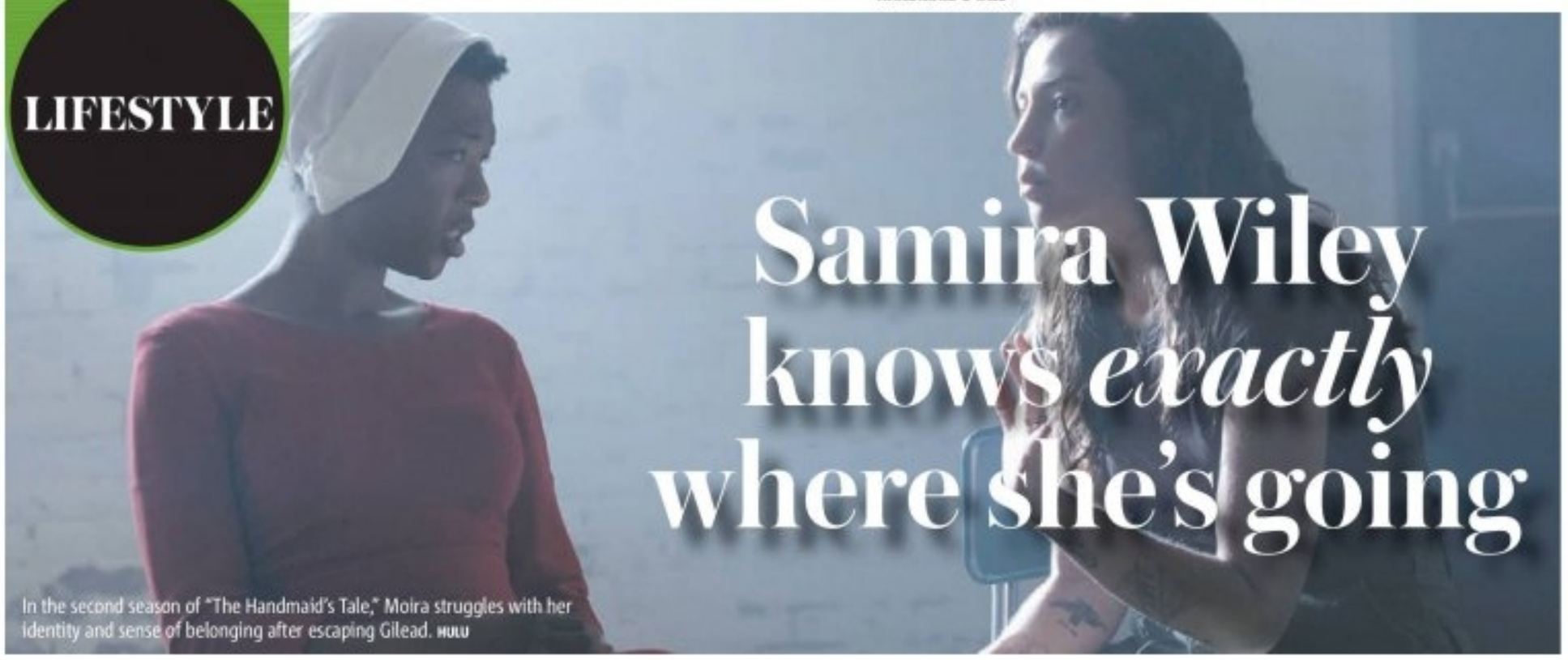

Samira Wiley knows *exactly* where she's going

In the second season of "The Handmaid's Tale," Moira struggles with her identity and sense of belonging after escaping Gilead. HULU

Even if her character on "The Handmaid's Tale" doesn't. Here, the actress talks visibility and acknowledging the series' similarities to slavery.

RACHAEL VAUGHAN CLEMMONS

The second season of "The Handmaid's Tale" premieres today, and first and foremost explores freedom: What is it really? And does the fighting stop once you get it? The definitive answer in the world of Gilead is no — even when you've escaped the oppressive republic, like June's best friend Moira, as played by Samira Wiley.

Wiley, by the way — most famous for her role as Poussey in "Orange is the New Black" — is as genial and genuine as you can imagine. And super proud of her latest role: role model. "I definitely feel like visibility is an incredibly powerful tool," she says over the phone. "To realize that because I am who I am and somehow now by the grace of God I have a voice and a face that people recognize … It's a blessing."

We chatted with the 31-year-old about freedom in the world of Gilead, the series' unmistakable similarities with slavery and being considerably more diverse than the source material.

Moira struggles with her identity this season. She can't go back to who she was before, but she doesn't know where she's going either.
[Identity] is a really big question for Moira this entire season. She's just escaped to Canada [and] it's set up to be this wonderful transition: she's in this new country, she can do whatever. But it's scary. She doesn't know anyone here — she doesn't even know who she is in this world. In Gilead — even though it was a horrible, horrible place — she was there for so long. It was like the devil that she knew. But in Canada, it's sort of like, "Well who even am I when I'm here?"

> **"We don't want to make a show with all white people, you know what I mean?"**

Freedom doesn't necessarily solve her problems. It seems to just bring her new ones.
We know her as this hard, bad-ass, amazing woman who can do anything. But really she's become fragile. She realizes she can't shake Gilead, she can't get it off of her. She's even having to resort to calling herself Ruby, from that time, because she literally doesn't even know who she is. And not only that, but who she wants to be. She struggles with where she fits in this world.

The similarities to slavery are really obvious, especially this season. What do you think of the criticism that "The Handmaid's Tale" erases that part of America's history?
I do think there's some validity to [those] questions that are being raised, in terms of how [slavery] fits into this world. And to be honest, I don't have all the answers for that. I don't totally understand [how we fix it], but it's just a conversation. It's something that we need to talk about and I'm glad that people are talking about it. And it's something that I'll continue to talk to the creators of the show about as well.

It's hard because while I want to see the similarities acknowledged on screen, I'm also glad it's a diverse series.
The book is a completely white world. If we were sticking to exactly what Margaret [Atwood] did in the book, I wouldn't be a part of this show. But Bruce Miller, who is the creator and showrunner, said he didn't want to make a show like that. The intention was to make a show [where the world] looks like what the world really does look like. We don't want to make a show with all white people, you know what I mean?

GETTY IMAGES

'THE HANDMAID'S TALE' GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Need a refresher course on the terms and expressions of Gilead? Here's an essential guide to the terminology of "The Handmaid's Tale." Under his eye, my dudes.

Aunts: Older women who are "true believers" of Gilead's totalitarian government. These cruel mistresses are responsible for grooming Handmaids to live in the houses of the Commanders.

Colonies: Areas of toxic, radioactive waste that are cleaned by women that have been ousted from Gilead.

Ceremony: When a Handmaid is ovulating, she's forced into having sex with the Commander while she lays between his wife's legs.

Commanders: The highest-ranking men in Gilead who are assigned Handmaids.

Econowives: These are working class women who are married to men who aren't Commanders — and weren't forced to become Handmaids.

Eyes: Secret, sometimes undercover police officers responsible for detecting traitors and keeping track of any suspicious activity.

Gender Traitors: This term is used to describe men and women who engage in same-sex activities or relationships.

Guardians of the Faith: Young, low-ranking men. Some work for and live with Commanders; others patrol the streets of Gilead, maintaining order with intimidation and machine guns.

Handmaids: Fertile women assigned to Commanders and their Wives to help the couple conceive. Handmaids have been divorced, were married to a man who had been divorced before Gilead, or never married.

Marthas: Infertile women that are made to work as servants in the houses of Commanders.

Unwoman: A lady that has the misfortune to be infertile, unmarried, widowed, a feminist, a lesbian, a nun, or generally question the rule of Gilead. Almost always sent to work (and die) in the Colonies.

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HANDMAID'S TALE

From modern America to dystopian Gilead: How far away are we?

A few years from now we could all be saying "Under his eye."

HENRIETTA JONES
letters@metro.us

There's a heartbreaking scene in Season 2 of "The Handmaid's Tale" where Emily (Alexis Bledel) is left behind at the airport, her family traveling on to Canada. Mentioned in Season 1, it's hardly a spoiler, still gut wrenching.

This the power of "The Handmaid's Tale"; a show that makes viewers take an uncomfortable look at the parallels between everyday life in America, and the fictional theocracy of Gilead — and consider what if? As the new season begins, it's worth asking: just how different are we to Gilead?

"Under his eye"— Privacy

In Gilead, the phrase 'Under his Eye' reminds characters they're under the judgment of god, but also reinforces the fear that the secret police are watching.

From surveillance cameras to full-body scans at airports, everyday privacy has slowly been eroded for "the greater good." However, the recent Cambridge Analytica scandal established there's always someone watching — just like in Gilead.

"Blessed be the fruit" — Abortion

In Gilead, abortion is considered murder. And

in the U.S., a three-term state senator in Idaho suggested the death penalty for abortion. Over in Ohio, Bill HG565 takes this further, suggesting criminal charges against medical doctors performing abortions — much like the hanging corpse of the abortion doctor on the wall in Gilead.

"May the Lord open" — Complacency

It's easy to shake your head and ignore career politicians. However, "The Handmaid's Tale" is a powerful commentary on the danger of complacency.

"I guess you kind of get used to things being one way" says Janine, as she scrubs blood from the walls. She has a point: today, things once remarkable have become predictable and expected.

"Nothing changes

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Women's March protesters arrive at the White House. Wearing their own version of "pussy hats," the Handmaid's protest. GEORGE KRAYCHYK

instantaneously," says Offred. "In a gradually heating bathtub, you'd be boiled to death before you knew it."

"Nolite te bastardes carborundorum, bitches" — Resistance
Of course, plenty of people are noticing change — and resisting. From Black Lives Matter to #metoo, and the teens pushing back with #riseup, ordinary Americans are standing up to the patriarchy. Don't let the bastards get you down, writes Offred's predecessor in an act of rebellion.

"There was an Offred before me" — History
While Margaret Atwood's original book was based on a loose collection of historical events, one of the TV series' most chilling plot developments is the discovery that handmaidens are Gilead's most valuable export.

While it might seem like fiction, globally human trafficking is a $32 billion industry, and there are over 4.5 million people experiencing forced sexual exploitation.

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Ernest Stuart is the Founder and Artistic Director for the Center City Jazz Festival.
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Philly-based trombonist Ernest Stuart has a lot on his plate with touring, teaching and performing these days, but still finds time to give back to the Philadelphia music community with the Center City Jazz Festival.

"I started Center City Jazz Festival back in 2012 with a Kickstarter campaign," Stuart says. "I was complaining about how the scene was going in a downward spiral — we lost a lot of jazz venues, like Ortlieb's Jazz House. It was where a lot of students in college would hear a lot of the local greats perform."

This Saturday from 1 p.m. to 7 p.m., the event for the seventh straight year takes place at five different Center City venues, all within walking distance of each other.

"We'll be at Milkboy, Fergie's Pub, Time, Franky Bradley's and Chris' Jazz Cafe," he says. "You get one wristband and you can go wherever you want to go. The festival sells out, so it's great to be in these packed rooms with people who love the music."

A nod to April being Jazz Appreciation Month, 20 different acts will be performing, and the lineup features a number of notable players like pianist Dave Kikoski, who's played with Pat Matheny, Ravi Coltrane and Chick

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Dai Miyazaki

Corea, and guitarist Dave Manley, who's toured and recorded with artists including Herbie Hancock, Jill Scott, DJ Jazzy Jeff and Dave Chappelle.

Stuart is particularly excited about trombonist Jeff Bradshaw performing.

"He's one of the first trombonists I ever heard live. It's so cool that he's performing at my festival," he says. "I first heard him at the Willingboro Festival. My dad used to live across the street where the festival was held. It's nice to have it come full circle in this way."

Bradshaw is a trombone legend who's performed with Michael Jackson, Earth, Wind & Fire and Patti LaBelle.

Given that the past three years have sold out, it's strongly advised to buy your wristbands in advance ($20 on the website) though any remaining tickets will be available on the day of for $25.

We've got the full lineup below, but for more information (or advanced tickets) visit *ccjazzfest.com.*

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Kim, Kenneth - BA079 - Household Goods • Starikov, Vladimir - B2124 - Household Goods
Knight, Christopher A - A117 - Household Goods • Mclellan-Payton, Paula - A115 - Household Goods
Williams, Cori T - B2147 - Household Goods • Nesmith, Teneika - A042 - Household Goods
Smith, Kenneth - B2111 - Household Goods

The contents of each unit will be sold as a lot and all items must be removed from the premises within 72 hours. Owners may redeem their goods by paying all rent and charges due at any time before the sale.

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Don't let technology bully you into tipping

NerdWallet is a personal finance website.

Mobile payment services like Square change the tipping dynamic. It's OK to resist. Tipping inflation is real, and it's coming to a tablet near you.

Merchants using Square and other mobile payment services can set "recommended" tip amounts or percentages for any transaction — including ones that traditionally haven't included tips. Your payment card is swiped through a device attached to an iPad or other tablet, and you're presented with a screen suggesting you add a gratuity.

People have reported being prompted for sizable tips at bakeries, food trucks and takeout counters. Hop in a New York City cab, and the credit card reader will prompt you to leave a 20, 25 or 30 percent tip. Get a haircut or a massage, and you may be presented with a screen that has the "25 percent tip" box already checked.

Square cautions businesses against setting suggested tip amounts too high, saying that "can alienate customers and make it less likely that they'll come back." But Square also recommends merchants add a "no tip" option precisely because a survey found some people were more likely to leave a gratuity this way.

"It's one thing to bypass a tip jar or just leave the gratuity line blank when you're signing a check, but it's harder to physically press a button saying you aren't going to leave anything," the company tells merchants.

Many people feel added pressure because the would-be recipient is standing right there, watching the transaction. Even in restaurants, where customers used to leave a cash tip or a signed credit card receipt on the table, waiters may be swiping cards at the diners' elbows and presenting them with "add a tip" screens.

So who should get what?

Tipping rules haven't changed, regardless of what a merchant's screen is telling you,

says etiquette expert Lizzie Post, co-president of the Emily Post Institute and co-host of the "Awesome Etiquette" podcast. Fifteen to 20 percent is still the accepted range for taxi rides, haircuts, spa services and table service in sit-down restaurants.

"You can tip with confidence. You have no obligation to tip more," Post says.

Gratuities are important in full-service restaurants, since servers often are paid less than the federal minimum wage on the assumption they will earn tips. Restaurant tips are traditionally based on the pretax amount of the bill, although some merchants are guilty of suggesting tips based on the total bill. People may default to 20 percent because the math is easier, or opt to base the tip on the after-tax bill, but that's all discretionary, Post says.

There's also no obligation to leave a tip for a takeout order, unless it was complicated or included curbside delivery. In that case, 10 percent is fine. Home delivery merits a 10 to 15 percent tip, with pizza delivery meriting a $2 to $5 tip. In most other situations, tip screens can be viewed just like tip jars — entirely optional.

What if you want to leave a tip, just not what the screen is suggesting? You can leave cash, of course, but you'll typically have the option to change or customize a gratuity that's charged to your card.

"I feel no shame in completely ignoring it, hitting 'other option' and putting in my percentage that I feel comfortable using," Post says. "It is your discretion what you put there." LIZ WESTON

Say what? The subtle ways you might be ruining your hearing

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After years of abuse, your ears might just go on strike. Permanently.

LUCY E. COUSINS
letters@metro.us

Our ears are constantly bombarded with intense sounds from the moment we wake up until the moment our head hits the pillow. But according to audiologist Theo Saunders, we could be doing permanent damage to our hearing without even realizing it.

"Hearing loss isn't as obvious as needing glasses. If you can't see clearly, you notice it every day," says Saunders. "But because it's hard to know when your hearing levels are going down, especially as hearing loss is only noticeable at certain times, it becomes a problem that's really easy to ignore."

And it's a bigger problem than you might think. In fact, in the United States right now, roughly 20 percent, or around 48 million people suffer from some level of hearing difficulty.

While unfortunately some kinds of hearing loss are inevitable, noise induced hearing loss can be prevented.

What we do every day affects our hearing, so give your ears a break.

Headphones

There's nothing better than drowning out the sounds of your commute with tunes, but Saunders advises that we keep the volumes down to a level of 60 percent, for just 60 minutes a day.

Concerts

For live events, Saunders prefers "musicians ear plugs" which attenuate the sound so it brings the volume down but also adds a certain amount of clarity to the music.

Farming

A lot of noise-induced hearing loss that Saunders treats is in farmers and farm workers. It's especially problematic if they use older-style tractors, which don't have soundproofing, or firearms and explosives. Essentially hearing protection should be a given, even for short uses of machinery.

Power tools

A lot of construction workers and home handymen (and women) forget that using power tools damages hearing; every single time they use them. That's because hearing loss is cumulative so it's not necessarily one event that will cause deafness; it's a build up of damage over time. Even a quick use of a chainsaw or a angle grinder is dangerous.

Motorcycles

A lot of motorcyclists trust that their helmets will protect them, and in most cases they do. But what is often forgotten is that helmets don't protect your hearing and some of them actually create an environment that damages the ears with wind and sound. A safe bet for every ride is to wear foam earplugs, no matter what your helmet style.

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SPORTS

Sixers make short work of Heat as 'The Process' advances to second round

Dario Saric goes to the basket against the Miami Heat Tuesday night. GETTY IMAGES

Philadelphia uses big second half to become the first team in the East to move on.

EVAN MACY
evan.macy@metro.us

Process believers and Process deniers are no longer distinctions in Philadelphia. After Tuesday night's 104-91 win over the Miami Heat — clinching a playoff series win for the first time since 2012 — The Process has already surpassed even the most optimistic of expectations.

Even after starting slow, the Sixers showed that their surplus of talent can turn a game on a dime, as Philly did at the Wells Fargo Center in the first round's decisive Game 5. A 34-20 third quarter blew the roof off an already buzzing arena that welcomed rapper Meek Mill straight out of jail and onto center court to ring the bell pregame.

J.J. Redick was en fuego from downtown, scoring 15 of his 27 points from beyond the arc. Joel Embiid got his typical monstrous big man numbers accumulating 19 points and 12 rebounds as the pair paced the Sixers. And of course, Ben Simmons — even with an early fourth foul scored 14 points while turning in 6 assists and 10 rebounds.

A productive third quarter led to a relentless fourth, with the Sixers maintaining a solid lead as high as 18 points throughout the stanza.

With the Celtics and Bucks battling until at least a Game 6 (Boston leads 3-2), if not a Game 7, the Sixers will have the luxury of resting up Embiid and other key players as they prepare for Round 2, set to start sometime this weekend.

The Sixers weren't shy about attacking the rim and being aggressive early, but a very early 8-3 advantage evaporated as Miami took a 15-13 lead midway through the first (with Philly shooting an ugly 4 for their first 15). A fired up Simmons ran past every Heat defender for a one handed slam to get Philly back up 19-15. After 12 minutes had elapsed the 76ers led 23-21.

The shooting woes continued, with the speed and length of the Sixers' defense helping to hold the Heat to a 37.8 percent clip from the field in the first half — Philly shot just 38.1 percent. Particularly cold was Dario Saric, missing his first five shot attempts as the Sixers and Heat found things tied at 44-all with seconds left in the half.

J.J. Redick earned the ninth technical foul of the series just before halftime, but was able to hit a pair of free throws to get the Sixers back into a tie before the horn.

A 10th series tech came after Goran Dragic gave Simmons a little smack in the back of the head as he drove to the basket. Robert Covington drained a three after the made free throw to give the Sixers its then largest lead. Which was doubled four minutes later after another Covington three, Philadelphia leading 66-54.

The door flew off as the third continued, with the Sixers improving their shooting, making 12 of 24 shots in the frame. The defense didn't waiver, with the Heat scoring just 20 points in the third while shooting even worse than they did in the first half.

A cold stretch followed in the fourth, with an 18-point lead fizzling to just eight thanks to a 10-0 run — stopped only after yet another ugly play saw James Johnson collide with two Sixers' players (getting the series' 11th technical) and gave Philly three made free throws to up their lead back to a comfortable 11.

GETTY IMAGES

Nick Foles is comfortable being a back up again but would rather start. GETTY IMAGES

Eagles' Foles is happy, but he could be happier

It's still a little jarring to consider that Nick Foles won Super Bowl MVP. After being traded away from the Eagles three years ago. And then nearly retiring from professional football. And then the emergence of Carson Wentz as an MVP-candidate quarterback.

Even the man himself is still trying to make sense of it.

"It's a crazy situation. I don't know how many times it's happened," Foles said to media members in South Philly Tuesday. "We all believe we can step in the huddle and do things to help the team, that's the aspiration and always has been. But you also have to look at the situation."

The bond between Wentz and Foles, according to the 29-year-old from Texas, is the reason why the two have been able to seamlessly shift from back up to starter and back.

Wentz, of course, tore his ACL last season forcing Foles to lead the team in the playoffs — which he did to the tune of 373 passing yards, three passing touchdowns and one receiving in a 41-33 win over the Patriots. Rehabbing, Wentz is expected to retake his starting role very close to Week 1, if not before. Making the Super Bowl MVP the back up months after hoisting his trophy.

"I want him to get healthy, get out there and get back to being Carson Wentz," Foles said with his usual selfless attitude.

The Eagles have made keeping Foles happy a priority, signing him to a restructured contract that gives him a $2 million signing bonus and an option to return in 2019. But there's a chance he doesn't see a snap.

"Do I want to lead a team again? Absolutely," Foles said. "But am I trying to run away and do that right now? Well if it presents itself and that works out, then fine, I'll live in that moment. But at the same time, I'm so grateful to be a part of this organization."

Foles has been the subject of trade rumors for months and could still be moved for a high draft pick or two sometime in August — or during the regular season if Wentz shows he is healthy and the team has confidence in Nate Sufeld as a backup. But then again, with Wentz' sometimes reckless style and his cheap rookie contract, Foles has extra value in Philadelphia.

For now, Foles is content with where he is.

"I'm not banging on the table at all," he said.

EVAN MACY

Home is where the hits are...

As of Tuesday afternoon, Rhys Hoskins was in second in the NL in RBI (19). He'll look to continue his hot hitting ways as the red-hot Phillies continue their three-game series with the Diamondbacks Wednesday, at 7 p.m. with ace Jake Arrieta on the mound. GETTY IMAGES

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GAMES

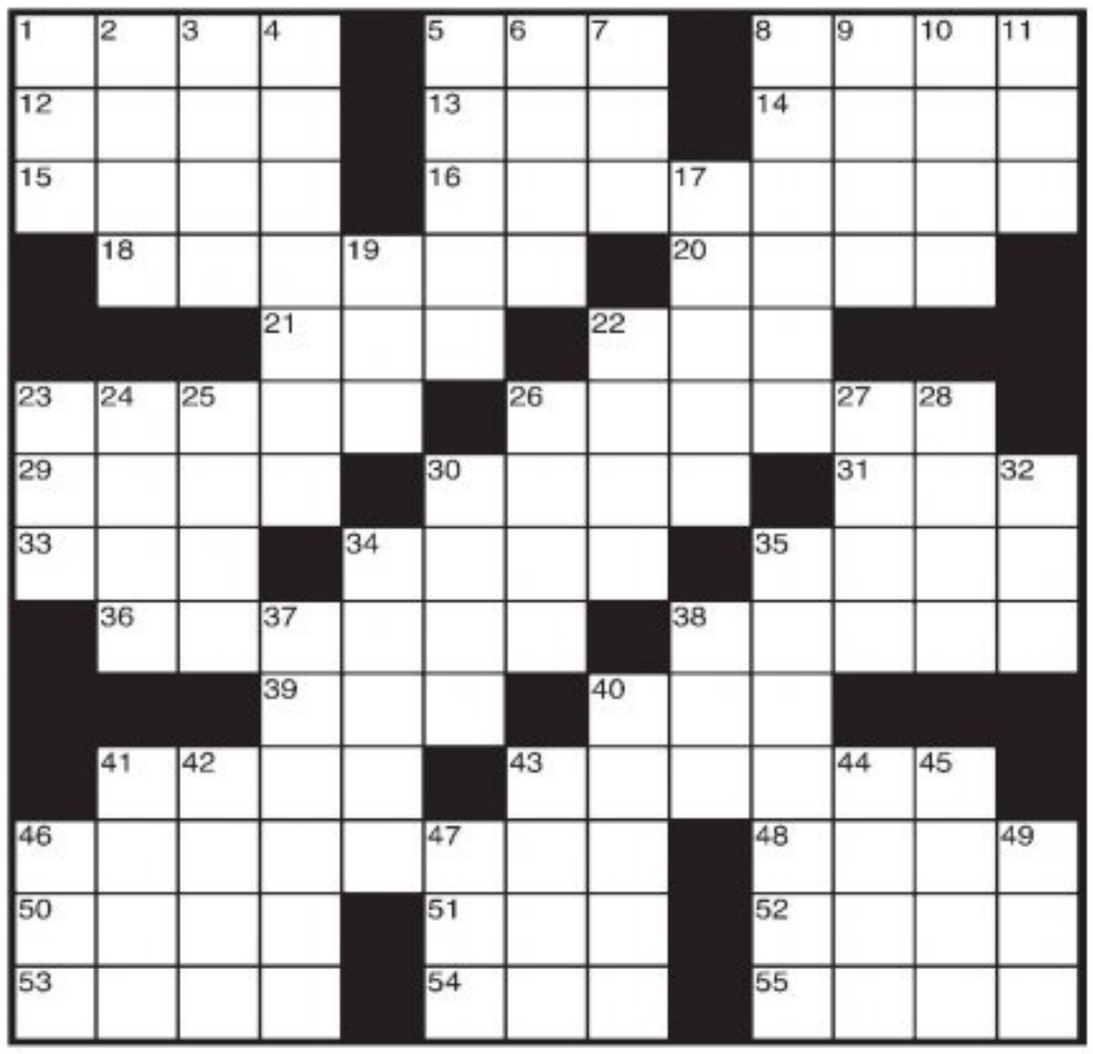
metro.us/crossword

ACROSS

1 Bisque, e.g. 5 Chatter
8 Walks barefoot
12 Hotel chain
13 Geisha's accessory
14 Mr. Kazan
15 Take on cargo
16 Insisted
18 Broke in
20 Tinned meat
21 Yahoo! rival
22 Estuary
23 – laugh or dance
26 Vassal's oath
29 Fired
30 Kind of muffin
31 Listener's need
33 Urge
34 Highway
35 Uncommon
36 Silk source
38 Fuses
39 Big laugh
40 -- out (relax)
41 Brownish-purple
43 Partial refund
46 Archer's feat (hyph.)
48 Feast with poi
50 Sea eagle
51 Knock
52 Technical sch.
53 Distinct periods
54 Med. personnel
55 Between ports

DOWN

1 Earth's star
2 General -- Bradley
3 Deal with a knot
4 Dappled, as a horse
5 Call from the Alps
6 Not yet risen
7 Basinger or Novak
8 Friendly correspondent (2 wds.)
9 "Betsy's Wedding" star
10 Caesar's day
11 Unhappy
17 Like pagodas
19 Tarzan's kid
22 Peruse
23 Howl
24 Co. honcho
25 Comedian Jay
26 Funny -- Lebowitz
27 Greenish-blue
28 House's lot
30 Volume
32 Lawyer's thing
34 Don Juans
35 Crown and scepter
37 Goes by bike
38 Fly catcher
40 Pence and LBJ
41 Happy rumble
42 Arm bone
43 Pitcher Nolan –
44 Big casks
45 Soften
46 Drone
47 Go wrong
49 Actress -- Hagen



metro.us/sudoku

easy

			3		4			
		1						9
4	5	2	9			6		3
	2	7			6	8		
			2		5			
		9	8			1	5	
8		4			1	9	7	5
2						3		
			4		3			

hard

		8	4	7				
1	4			3		8		
				9	6			
5			1	4	8			2
		4				5		
3			2	5	7			4
			9	1				
		3		2			7	8
				8	5	6		

metro.us/horoscopes

Aries Discipline and hard work will pay off, but at what cost? Pace yourself and don't become exhausted trying to take on too many responsibilities or covering for someone else.

Taurus Study every situation you face carefully and figure out what will serve you best and help you excel. Take care of your health, and make time for the people closest to you.

Gemini Honesty may be a problem when dealing with others. Listen to what's being said and be wary of evasiveness. If you don't fully understand something, ask direct questions.

Cancer Your intuition won't let you down. You can be sure of your feelings. Answers to your questions will resolve any issue you have with someone using manipulative tactics.

Leo Go over your personal finances and recent spending habits. Resolve any unfinished business and clear the way for new beginnings. Speak up if you disagree with someone.

Virgo Command the floor at meetings to make a difference. Offer alternatives and back up your plans with reasonable timelines and procedures that you know will run smoothly.

Libra Make constructive changes at home or to your lifestyle that will ease financial stress and encourage greater personal stability. Keep your personal matters and passwords secret.

Scorpio Get involved in a project, protest or group effort that you believe in. The people you surround yourself with will make a difference to your attitude and your accomplishments.

Sagittarius Emotional deception is apparent. Whether it's someone leading you astray or you just refusing to see the truth, problems will arise if you don't re-evaluate what's going on.

Capricorn Look at your financial situation or personal expenditures and make necessary adjustments. Home improvements will turn out to be beneficial.

Aquarius Talk is cheap if you don't follow through on your words. Someone will give you false hope or will expect something that you cannot deliver.

Pisces Use your intuition, imagination and vision to get ahead. Be detailed and precise, and present what you can do with finesse and confidence. EUGENIA LAST

Yesterday's answers

J	I	M	■	L	U	L	L	■	H	U	T	S		
O	R	D	■	E	R	I	E	■	I	R	O	N		
T	A	S	S	E	L	E	D	■	N	A	N	O		
S	N	E	A	K	■	■	■	A	D	L	I	B		
■	■	■	S	S	E	■	F	L	U	■	■	■		
S	A	N	S	■	I	R	I	S	■	K	W	H		
A	W	A	Y	■	F	O	B	■	■	L	O	A		
K	E	G	■	■	F	A	B	■	B	E	E	F		
E	D	S	■	H	E	R	E	■	R	E	S	T		
■	■	■	G	A	L	■	R	O	I	■	■	■		
F	U	S	E	D	■	■	■	M	A	I	N	E		
O	G	E	E	■	H	A	Z	A	R	D	E	D		
I	L	E	S	■	A	M	A	H	■	E	O	N		
E	Y	R	E	■	Y	O	G	A	■	A	N	A		

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Alliance for Audited Media

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If you are living with OCD, you may be interested in participating in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for adults with OCD.

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- **FOLLOW-UP VISITS**
- **COMPENSATION UP TO $900 FOR TIME AND TRAVEL FOR COMPLETING STUDY REQUIRED VISITS**

CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL FITNESS - CHERRY HILL, NJ

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Research Study

Has your life been affected by bipolar depression?

You may be eligible for a research study being conducted in our area to evaluate the safety and effectiveness of an investigational medication for the treatment of bipolar depression.

In order to qualify you must:

- **be between 18 and 65 years of age (inclusive)**
- **have been diagnosed with bipolar I or bipolar II disorder**
- **be currently having a major depressive episode that started at least 2 weeks ago, but no more than 6 months ago**
- **have previously had at least one bipolar manic or mixed episode (if you have bipolar I disorder), or hypomanic episode (if you have bipolar II disorder)**
- **meet additional study criteria.**

Qualified participants will receive all study medication and study-related care from a dedicated team of medical staff at no cost. Health insurance is not required to participate.

Center for Emotional Fitness - Cherry Hill, NJ

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